1. Heltzel, Anne. *Circle Nine*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick, 2011. Print.

**Summary:** Circle 9 by Anne Heltzel, the main character Abby wakes up next to a burning building and remembers nothing of what happened to her. Her clothes are full of soot and ashes. There is only one person that is alive, named Sam. She doesn't know Sam at all but being that he is the only other human she has to trust him. Sam takes her to live with him in this cave that he has turned into his home. Abby begins to have flashbacks and spurts of memories here and there. With these memories she soon starts to remember what happened. Things soon change after she begins to remember.I expect the authors critique to be about something how we as humans caused so much harm to the world that we were its demise. We know that there's something wrong because there are only two people left in the world. So something catastrophic could have happened. And perhaps this catastrophe was our fault.

**Use:** This book sort of shows how people that are affected by environmental factors. How these factors and events that have happened to areas where people occupy it can change a person. These changes dont have to be physical ones necessarily, they can be mental as well.

**Quotes:**

" I wake up and there is a boulder in my skull and a hand on my cheek. I startle and struggle to lift myself from the ground, and when I do bolts of pain stab my eyes and brain. I lie back down. I let the hand caress my cheek, because its the only good thing I feel right now, and I want to hang on to it." (Heltzel 7)

"It's all clear why she's crying; it's because I have won. She is no longer closer to Sam's heart. My own heart is so warm and full of Sam; it is the happiest I've been in so long." (Heltzel 82)

" I am desperate for change." (Heltzel 109)

"Chills crawl up my spine as I read. The article is sad it is a horrible thing to have happened to a family. Part of me wonders if I am connected to this at all-it seems far-fetched. It occurs to me that Sam really did just want to protect me from seeing the ugliness of the world, like he says. That he just wanted to keep Circle Nine from hurting me, like he always does." (Heltzel 120-121)

2. Lloyd, Saci. *The Carbon Diaries 2017*. New York: Holiday House, 2010. Print.

**Summary:** A girl named Laura is just living her life in England while trying to make her band, “dirty angels” famous. Her band and her friends aren’t like the typical teenagers that we see now. They are activists on government issues and the environment. Like, her band sings about the climate and environmental issues. They are so passionate about this stuff because currently they do not live in the best conditions due to the climate and government. Things are so bad that they have “carbon rations” which is how much carbon one is allowed to put into the air. Of course because Laura is a teenager, she has problems with her boyfriend Adi. Because Laura is so focused on her band she goes on tour with them around Europe and see’s how everything is outside of London.

**Use:** This book shows how far humans have gone with treating the environment terribly and now they have to live with the consequences. Also how some humans can actually feel motivated to do something in order to help save our planet and care for it. People such as teenagers see the problems that we face and work towards doing something to better our world so it should be a sign to us to do something before things get too far out of hand and we become our own demise.

**Quotes:** "How does my sister get that life? She left her old job as a promoter for Carbon Dating with Kieran last summer and got a job in Thailand working for an eco tour holiday company called LoveWorks, which basically charges 5,000 to fly guilty white people out to Thailand to build bad log huts for skinny villagers in rain forests." ( Lloyd 3)

"They're rebuilding the barrier, but there's always money and tech problems and so, basically a year after the flood, the whole city's under threat, big time. And the water keeps on rising. Last year, the Thames flooded 34 times. And each time it floods, more people leave. Property prices in the bad areas have dropped to joke levels. Everyone's to live in the hilly bits, like Hapstead and Shooter Hill." ( Llyod 8)

" When I got back to the docks, I found it'd all flooded again and there was a sort of wet black mist hanging over the place with the sun a hanging pale disk in the grayed-out sky." (Llyod 23)

" OK, so Discussion Point 3 on the agenda. What trends in the current political climate are ripe for exploitation for the revolution? He gazed around the all. "Obviously at this time, with mass unemployment, the backlash against nuclear power stations, the recession, the failing New Green Deal initiative of the government-all of these give us great hope to build a new future for the workers" I glanced up quickly, expecting it to be a joke, but no one was laughing The workers? Revolution? Red Dreads Parsnip Boy raised his hand. " With like...uh....all due respect this kind of...sort of...talk at meetings is kind of like...uh... redundant. We gotta get...active. I mean I sort of ...like to know how many of us are ....uh...like supporting the ....uh....Workers' Walk from Manchester to uh....basically uh...London?" (Llyod 28)

3. Anthony, Joëlle. *Restoring Harmony*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2010. Print.

**Summary:** A girl named Molly McClure and her family have reverted back to how people used to live before technology and grocery stores. They live on a small place in Canada and grown their own food and live like people use to. Her parents are concerned for Molly’s grandparents that do not live in Canada, but the US. So Molly only being a teenager has to set out to go help her grandparents and see if they are okay. But because the world at the moment is terribly insane due to environmental crisis, the task is harder for her.

**Use:** This book shows us something that we should do or work towards doing. We should go back to how we used to live, or at least grow our food. We, by ourselves should grow our own food and eat that instead of going and looking for food that has been processed and wasting all of these resources just to get our food to the grocery stores. It serves as sort of an option that we have.

**Quotes:** "Our island was a little pocket of prosperity due to food farmland, planning, and hard work, but until I stepped out of that alley and took a hard look at Seattle, I hadn't really understood how blessed my small, simple life had been. Around me stood the crumbling shell of a great city, covered with obscene graffiti, littered with trash. My parents had met at grad school in Seattle, and their stories of laughter, music, food, wine, and friends were a stark contrast to the empty, abandoned street that stretched out in front of me. After all the big governments had seized the last of the oil, which crashed the world economy and caused the Great Collapse of 2031, most people had left the city and moved out into the suburbs, where more than one family could share a house and they could grown food in their yards. It was like a giant broom had swept the streets clear of humanity, leaving only emptiness and wreckage behind." (Anthony 14)

"His tone had softened, but his eyes flashed with anger. "We were getting by until a couple of months ago, but a few weeks in the hospital wiped out our entire savings and the pension fund dried up last year. I had to sell everything I could just to buy food." He'd sold his possessions to buy food and he had the nerve to be and at Mom for becoming a farmer? I didn't understand him at all. I took a hard look at the room and saw that it really was much shabbier than I would've expected from my mom's descriptions." (Anthony 71)

"I'm just wondering why if they were rich enough to buy such a nice house, and my grandpa was a doctor for so long, they don't have any money." "My guess is no liquid assets." "What do you mean?" Spill was pulling us up a pretty steep hill, but he never lost his breath at all and continued to talk normally. "People with old money are still rich," he explained. "And there have always been, and always will be, the poor." We reached the top of the hill, and the road flattened out into open countryside. "For a while," he continued, "there were people like your grandparents, who earned food salaries and reinvested their savings in technology and real estate. They made money fast, but it was mostly on paper. They were rich in assets but usually had a ton of debt. When the Collapse came, they lost everything." "Oh." " The truly rich knew that the oil was almost gone and that the governments of the bigger countries would have to make a move of some sort," he continued." (Anthony 116)

"That's when I saw Dad's email about the border. Ian McClure CANADA BORDER CLOSING!!! September 21 Molly, Return home ASAP. Epidemic breakout of polio around the Great Lakes has shut down parts of Canadian-U.S. border. Already setting up quarantine tents in Ontario w/ long delays-three weeks or more. Other provinces sure to follow to keep it from spreading. Don't get stuck. Hurry, Dad. Panic washed over me. We had to get home! Dad had sent the email five days ago and I hoped we weren't already too late. I took ten seconds to send a message saying I had the money and we were on our way and then I signed off." (Anthony 180)

4. "Polar ice." *World of Earth Science*. Ed. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda Wilmoth Lerner. Detroit: Gale, 2003. *Science In Context*. Web. 13 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** Polar ice caps are of high importance for the surrounding ice fields and ice islands, and they are at temperatures in the negatives. They contain a lot of the worlds water and if they were to melt they could undoubtedly drown major cities that are occupied by many. The ice caps, when expanded, are capable of dropping the temperature of the world by a small amount but this small amount is still able to cause events such as sea level changes and volcanic activity. If global warming continues it could melt the ice caps and cause sea levels to rise to an extreme extent.

**Use:** This article allows us to see the effects that humans have had on the world. It explains how ice caps work and how dangerous it is for us to continue on our paths that we are on now, a path that leads us to global warming. If we do not begin to work towards containing or stopping global warming then we are in trouble when they melt and sea levels rise and major cities are underwater.

**Quotes:** “ It has been estimated that enough water is locked up in Antarctica to raise sea levels around the globe by more than 200 ft (61 m). Such an increase would drown most of the world's major cities and destroy much of the world's food-producing capacity.”

“Scientists believe that the growth of polar ice caps can be triggered by a combination of several global climactic factors. The major element is a small drop (perhaps no more than 15°F [9°C]) in average global temperature. The factors that cause this drop can be very complex and include fluctuations in atmospheric and oceanic carbon dioxide levels, increased amounts of dust in the atmosphere, heightened winds--especially in equatorial areas--and changes in surface ocean currents.”

“ Scientists warn that should global warming continue unchecked, it could have a drastic effect on polar ice. Small variations over a short period of time could shrink the ice caps and raise world sea levels. Even a small rise in sea level could affect a large percentage of the world's population, and it could effectively destroy major cities like New York.”

5. "Human Impacts." *Plant Sciences*. Ed. Richard Robinson. New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 2001. *Science In Context*. Web. 13 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** Humans have been the single most species that have changed the Earth and impacted it greatly. We have effected the massive mammals that once roamed around with our hunting them and using what they are able to give us, making them go extinct. Without these animals to eat the things they once did, certain plants could not spread and evolve like they would have. We as humans haven’t done all that bad, we instead of relying on meat have learned to harvest grain which has helped us. Humans in general have been known to impact every aspect of life, whether it be global temperature, agriculture or mammals.

**Use:** The relationship between the environment and humans is highlighted here through the impacts that we, as a species have had on it. We have not only had negative impacts on the Earth but also have made great advancements.

**Quotes:** “ While human impacts are as old as the human species itself, their pace and extent have grown rapidly, and recent changes have begun to dwarf the consequences of even the most profound change ever brought about by our species, the development of agriculture. Humans are now poised to cause more changes in the future of the biosphere than even photosynthetic bacteria caused when they first filled the atmosphere with oxygen.”

“Even before the advent of agriculture, humans were influencing the biosphere. During the late Pleistocene, between 50,000 and 12,000 years ago, humans spread throughout the world, hunting and gathering as they went. Large mammals such as mammoths and giant ground sloths went extinct around the same time.”

“ By cultivating and harvesting grains, humans set in motion a series of changes with deep effects on both the natural world and their own culture that have continued, and intensified, to this day. First and most profoundly, grains gave humans a source of surplus food that allowed population growth.”

“ Beginning in the late 1700s with the invention of the steam engine and continuing through the twenty-first century, humans have harnessed increasing amounts of stored energy to drive larger, faster, and more powerful machines.”

6. Tidwell, Mike. "We Are All From New Orleans Now: Climate Change, Hurricanes and the Fate of America's Coastal Cities | The Nation." *We Are All From New Orleans Now: Climate Change, Hurricanes and the Fate of America's Coastal Cities | The Nation*. The Nation, 29 Oct. 2012. Web. 24 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** This article basically talks about the fate of the coastal cities of America. This relates to the book because it talks a bit about some of the natural disasters that have occurred. Mostly the most recent one Hurricane Sandy and a past one, Hurricane Katrina. This article really shows how something like natural disasters, such as hurricanes, can happen to all. Potentially, we can, at anytime, be affected terribly by these catastrophes. Natural disasters happen and affect not only the region they hit but the world as a whole. They have a great force about them, so multiple ones at once are able to cause something so great that it could be the end of our world. Not only hurricanes but other natural disasters such as volcanoes exploding or things as such.

**Use:** I can use this to show how although we do not all live in the same place, we still do the same damage to the world that doesn’t necessarily affect us but can affect different parts of our world, only hurting it even more.

**Quotes:** “ Climate change—through the measurable rise of sea levels and a documented increase in the intensity of Atlantic storms—has made 100 million Americans virtually as vulnerable to catastrophe as the victims of Hurricane Katrina were seven years ago.”

“In truth, we must combine some level of adaptation with the third option: switching away from fossil fuels and onto clean energy. Clean energy is less expensive, less risky and overall much better for us. It’s the option that treats the disease of global warming, not just the symptoms. “

7. Brozan, Nadine. "EMOTIONAL EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 27 June 1983. Web. 17 Feb. 2013.

**Summary:** Natural disasters not only can cause physical damage, but emotional damage as well. People are left with nothing after these natural disasters occur, leaving them feeling empty and sometimes alone. They at first only can see the damage that has been done, like the physical damage but then after, when everything subsides they feel the emotional and mental damage.These people who have survived theses natural disasters feel different emotions. They are in shock at first that they actually survived then they feel relived because they are alive. Then they look for help because they are at a loss of words often and almost begin to feel hopeless. They don't know what to do next. What is worse is when loved ones are lost. The effects that disasters can have on individuals are not only physical but emotional, often times causing people to feel a variety of emotions. As if it were not already hard enough to deal with the loss of their property and homes, they have to deal with it emotionally and mentally.

**Use:** Yet again, this highlights the relationship between the environment and people. But this shows how by us effecting the environment in a negative way, it can sort of retaliate and cause us emotional distress when natural disasters that sometimes we are to blame for can cause.

**Quotes:** “Natural disasters strike suddenly and leave behind lives shattered by physical injury or the loss of home and job. At the time that flood waters rise over riverbanks, as they have done recently in several Western states, or when an earthquake shatters a community, as one did last month in Coalinga, Calif., there is little time at first to pay attention to the survivors' feelings. Emotional pain is usually hidden at the outset, but it often lingers, to emerge long after the debris has been cleared away.”

“According to Dr. Lystad, ''There are six typical initial responses: fear, numbness and shock, confusion and difficulty in making decisions, desire for information, seeking help for oneself and family, and helpfulness to others.''”

**8.** Galbraith, Kate. "THE TEXAS TRIBUNE; Clean Energy Foresees Fight in Texas Legislature." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 15 Feb. 2013. Web. 17 Feb. 2013.

**Summary:** The article circulates around clean energy. Obama recently has enforced more that we need clean energy sources, relying mostly on solar and wind power. However in Texas it is harder for them because of budgets. Although having a mandate approved for 5880 megawatts of renewable power capacity by 2015, the funding towards the wind farms have been almost blocked making it harder for them to work.They are trying to renew the funding towards these wind farms because Texas was well known for them and if they lose their customers to opposing states such as Oklahoman, Nebraska, or Kansas then they will be in serious amounts of trouble.Funding to places like this will help us with the environment greatly because the money will not only be going to somewhere that needs it, but it will also be doing good for the world. We need to start spending our money wisely on things that will help us in the long term.

**Use:** I can use this to show solutions that people have in order to help our environment and better it.

**Quotes: “**As the session progresses, renewable energy advocates are bracing to defend critical policies that have helped Texas become the leading wind-power state. The ascendancy of the Tea Party, an abundance of cheap natural gas and tighter budgets have reduced the sway of the wind industry. Solar power advocates anticipate limited gains at best.”

“Advocates’ greatest hopes may center on a program meant to make it easier for businesses to install solar panels or to improve energy and water efficiency. The idea is to allow property owners to pay for the improvements through higher property tax assessments, after borrowing the money initially.”

9. "There Isn't Much Cryolite Anymore." *Slate Magazine*. N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Feb. 2013.

**Summary:** The Earth contains many natural resources that we humans often take advantage of. We see its abundance but we don't realize that it can run out. In this article one of the natural resources that is depleting is cryolite, which is used to process aluminum. Because this is happening, we have now gone to synthetic variations of the resource. There is only so much that we can have man made just for our use. It's not even the real thing. It shows how we have over time, become in a way "fake". We use "fillers", not the real thing just something that may serve as a substitute for that item. This really, I feel, lowers the quality and essence of the resource. We need to be careful about how much we use. They believe that if the coal runs out in Britain, the economy may easily crash. Certain parts of the world rely on these natural resources for their economy to thrive and prosper. We need to be weary of how much of these resources we use and that we do not use them all up. These economic crashes may just lead to worse things, and bring down the government and its people with it.

**Use:** To show us how we need to stop taking advantage of the Earth and what it naturally gives us or else we can run out of it and it may very well be a terrible thing for us.

**Quotes:** “The People's Republic controls more than 90 percent of rare-earth production and now claims that their reserves may be exhausted in the next 20 years. Extinct plant and animal species notwithstanding, has the Earth ever run out of a natural resource?”

“The last active cryolite mine, located in Greenland, closed in the 1980s, and manufacturers now rely on a synthetic alternative.”

“Resource exhaustion used to be a hot topic among economists. Thomas Robert Malthus predicted in 1798 that land shortages would lead to famine and population collapse. In 1865, William Stanley Jevons predicted that Britain would soon run out of coal, bringing the economy crashing down, and others soon joined the gloomy chorus. “

10. "Arctic Ocean Summer Ice Pack Changes, 2005 to 2007." *Space Sciences*. Ed. John F. McCoy. 2nd ed. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2012. *Science In Context*. Web. 25 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** This picture shows the difference of the ice caps from 2005 to 2007. How much the ice caps have gotten smaller. Ultimately meaning that sea levels have gone up.

**Use:** I can use this picture to talk about how great of an impact we have had within only two years to these ice caps. And how we are only hurting ourselves more by doing this.

**Quotes:** “NASA satellite imagery demonstrates how the extent of the Arctic Ocean's summer ice pack decreased from 2005 to 2007, taken by many as a sign of man-made global warming.”

11. "An oil spill." *World of Microbiology and Immunology*. Ed. Brenda Wilmoth Lerner and K. Lee Lerner. Detroit: Gale, 2010. *Science In Context*. Web. 25 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** This is a picture of an oil spill in the ocean which could have been caused by many things that humans were most likely to blame for.

**Use:** I can talk about humans have literally caused so much pollution and damage to aquatic life and the ocean due to simple mistakes that they could have prevented.

12. "Polluted swamp at the Inger Oil Superfund toxic waste site." *Environmental Encyclopedia*. Ed. Marci Bortman, Peter Brimblecombe, and Mary Ann Cunningham. 3rd ed. Detroit: Gale, 2010. *Science In Context*. Web. 25 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** It is a picture of a polluted swamp in Louisiana.

**Use:** I can use this just to show how humans are really inconsiderate about our environment and will do just anything and ruin it.

13. "Flood." *UXL Encyclopedia of Weather and Natural Disasters*. Vol. 3: Flood to Monsoon. Detroit: UXL, 2008. 321-335. *Science In Context*. Web. 13 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** This basically explains the terms of the different types of flooding like flash floods, and coastal floods. It also states facts about flooding like how it is able to spread disease and how they are associated with hurricanes and other natural disasters as such. Also what to do when certain things such as flash floods occur.

**Use:** I can use this to further explain how dangerous floods are and how we may be the cause of them because of the melting ice caps that we are causing.

**Quotes: “** Large waves can also cause flooding. The most common type of waves, those driven by the wind, are called wind waves. The largest wind waves are generated by large, stationary storm systems. Wind waves tend to be largest in the open ocean and diminish in height as they approach land. Large wind waves have the greatest potential for flooding when accompanied by high tide.”

“The banks of rivers and streams overflow due to many causes, including excessive rain, the springtime melting of snow, and blockage of water flow by ice. The failure of a dam or aqueduct is another source of flooding. The primary cause of flooding in large rivers is prolonged heavy precipitation over a large area.”

“Cholera, dysentery, and typhoid are diseases that typically spread during floods, when sewage treatment systems become overloaded and drinking water supplies become contaminated. An abundance of standing water also promotes the breeding of mosquitoes, which may carry malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever, and encephalitis (pronounced en-cef-a-LIE-tis).”

14. "Conservation." *The Gale Encyclopedia of Science*. Ed. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda Wilmoth Lerner. 4th ed. Detroit: Gale, 2009.*Science In Context*. Web. 13 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:** The article talks about why conservation of resources is so important. And how we have taken advantage of these resources for own own good like industrializing. Also how people, well the government has made steps forward to fix the issues.

**Use:** I can use this to show the efforts that the government has made towards helping out the environment with laws. Also how different organizations have also helped out.

**Quotes: “**Since those early attempts to balance the needs and desires of a growing, industrialized American public against the productivity and aesthetic beauty of the American wilderness, American environmental policy has experienced pendulum swings between no-holds-barred industrial exploitation, economically-tempered natural resource management, and preservationist movements that advocate protection of nature for nature's sake.”

“Because of its more moderate and politically palatable stance, conservation became the more popular position by the turn of the century. By 1905, conservation had become a blanket term for nearly all defense of the environment. More Americans had come to live in cities, and to work in occupations not directly dependent upon resource exploitation. The urban population was sympathetic to the idea of preserving public land for recreational purposes and provided much of the support for the conservation movement from the beginning.”

“From the beginning, American conservation ideas, informed by the science of ecology and the practice of resource management on public lands, spread to other countries and regions. In recent decades, however, the rhetoric of conservation has taken a prominent role in international development and affairs, and the U.S. government has taken a back-seat role in global environmental policy. The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) are some of today's most visible international conservation organizations.”

15. "The new Brazilian national highway BR163, criticized by conservationists for its environmental..." *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia*: *Evolution*. Ed. Michael Hutchins. Detroit: Gale, 2011. *Science In Context*. Web. 25 Mar. 2013.

**Summary:**  This picture shows a highway running through an outer portion of the rainforest.

**Use:** I can use this picture to explain how humans often times interfere and intrude where they really shouldn’t, especially in places where other species occupy it.